Form #105

# MEMORANDUM

January 15, 1965

TO Mr. Richard Picker

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick:

I withdraw all statements I have made concerning the 1-B brass Continental Dollars recently coming out of England, and would like to restudy them if the opportunity ever arises.

I would be particularly anxious to study two pieces at the same time.

Eric

EPN/atb

P.S. Kalen adv. Reprints of Jenks plates @ $15. I think you asked me about them.

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

1/24/65

Dear Eric:

In the event that I didn't already acknowledge it, thanks for returning the counterstamped cent(?). Ted looked at it for a while, and after coming to no conclusion other than yours, except that he couldn't see as much of a cent as you could, and he didn't feel that the whole thing proved anything. I went over it, and am fairly convinced that it is a 1795-6 cent, but, also can't see where it proves anything. Though they don't match anything that I can find, either in genuines or counterfeits, the possibility always exists that genuine dies (or punches), or even contemporary counterfeit punches could have survived, and that the finder may have tried them on a cent. This is much the same thing that we did with the punches that you have. I don't think it proves when the punches were made They could have been made in the 1650s, and survived, or as late as last year, and just used on an old, flattenned out cent. Were you able to find anything that was made from any of these punches??? Did you check them against the so-called NE counterstamps on foreign silver coins, such as Gibbs owns, or owned? Did you take photos of this piece?

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

P.S. Or, did you find anything that you still want secret?

January 27, 1965

Mr. Richard Picker
P.O. Box 366
Albertson, Long Island, New York

Dear Dick:

Enclosed is my not-so-good picture of the counterstamps of the NE, XII, VI.

I draw much more of a conclusion from the use of the 1796 cent than you all do. This was a very worn cent and probably the counterstamps were made in the latter half of the 19th century when most of the phonies were made. If you think genuine counterstamps could last for 200 years thou are in Dreamland.

I haven't had the opportunity to check the die details against all of my pictures and will do so when I can.

I have never seen all of the NE counterstamps on the foreign silver coins but Percy Rideout apparently has.

I have no findings I am keeping secret. I was pleased enough to satisfy myself that this copper experiment is a super phony.

You were nice to call my attention to the Jenks plates. I previously bought a set from Katen and with a 9-cushion billiard ended up with a Jenks with original photographs.

Best regards,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

2/10/65

Dear Eric:

Enclosed is a letter I just received from Billy Annon, along with my reply. It's just to give you a little advance information, in the event that he decides to offer this material to you, as I suggested. Please return both for my files, and, at the same time, can you tell me what he's talking about? I don't have the 1880 catalogue that he mentions. I've written to Percy, asking if he has any photographs of the NE counterstamped pieces, and am awaiting his reply. If there's a connection that I can find, I'll let you know. What happened to your phone calls? I enjoyed them, and miss them. Do you have any plans to be in N.Y. in the near future? The March 12th meeting of the N.Y. club should be an exciting one.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

Returned 2/12/65

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

3/30/85

Dear Eric:

Just a quick question on Continental currency. We know that there were 8 notes to a sheet. We also know that the 5/10/75 issue had the extra long bill of $20. that was printed separately. How did the $30. note get done, or was that one also a separate printing. In the Fugio monograph you mention that the same number of notes were authorized for all denominations, $1. thru $8., which is more or less of an indication that they were all on one sheet. Perhaps my answer is in Phillips, but, I don't have a copy of the book, just photo-copies of some sections. What else is new? [redacted]

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

4/13/65

Dear Eric:

Thanks for the letter. Though the numbers on the bills are a clue, I think that they are only an indication, and can't see how they prove anything conclusively. Conclusive proof would be to try to locate a number of uncut sheets, and see if any of them have the $30. note on them. I planned to write to Percy Rideout, and have him check the AAS, but, I've just been too busy with preparations for our vacation. We leave on Thursday for Spain and Portugal, returning the 25th. If you plan to come east in the near future, perhaps you'll make the N.Y. show, May 6-8. I'll be happy to take some time off, and go in some corner and just talk. Glad you liked my comments on the Ethics committee. I don't know most of the IAPN European members, but, will do my best to get acquainted with them in June. Since they seem to be serious about this forgery situation, perhaps it would be a good idea for you to attend, and bring out the lack of cooperation to all of those attending. This might bring out some info, or, at least it will show who's cooperating, and who isn't, and, it'll be public. You're a little late with your unusual proposals. I've been taking my coins of frozen sherry, and disposing of the evidence as soon as possible, so that no evidence will ever exist of this devious scheme. Back to the notes, of course, other proof would be to find an uncut pair of $30. What do you have, or what have you seen along the lines of sheets of pairs?

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

5/15/65

Dear Eric:

Just received your letter and the note. Thanks. Don't know what I have that you need, but will take it up with you later. Now I want to get this in the mail to you immediately, so you'll have it Monday, and will call either that day, or Tuesday. I have the two pieces from Tanilina. Would like to talk to you about them. Boy, N.J. was bothered by mosquitoes that far back!!! Today we call them Jersey Eagles. Never saw these on notes before, or else, never bothered them. I hope that this isn't something rare.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

5/25/6[illegible]

Dear Eric:

Again, thanks very much for the N.J. note. I received a phone call yesterday thanking me. It was very much appreciated. Frankly, I don't know what I have, that you might be able to use. I dug out your old notes as to the ones that you wanted, and went thru those that are still left. You made these notes before you got Harley's collection, so no doubt most of these are not needed. I checked in red, those that are still here. One N.I. was in the group that didn't appear on the list, so I listed it. Also, there were a few cases where I found different plate letters than those you listed. In addition, it's very possible that some of the others are still here in stock. So, if you can find any on this list, that you feel is a fair trade, please let me know. If it's checked in red, I certainly have it, and, it's aside. If not checked, I may have it, and will dig. Meanwhile, when we spoke on the phone, I got the impression that you would be interested in the Hancock Trial of the Roman Head. If this is so, I'd be willing to trade. What can you propose? I leave for Paris on the 1st, and return about the 22nd. I'm hoping you'll surprise me and show up there.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Ri

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

5/27/65

Dear Eric:

Just finished examining Vlacke Pine Tree Shilling. He told me that you gave it a clean bill of health. I'm sorry that I can't agree with you at this point. I have grave suspicions about it. I think that it's a fairly modern forgery. I'm returning the coin to Bob tomorrow AM, and have asked him to airmail me photos to England, so that I'll have something to go on while I'm there, in the event that a similar one is offered me there. If you've shot it, please forward a print to me in London, since when I spoke to Bob, he wasn't sure that he could find a photographer, and get a print to me in time. I'll be at the Westbury Hotel, Bond Street at Conduit Street, London W. 1, probably on the 11th. Mark your envelope 'hold for arrival'. I should be there until about the 22nd the latest. My suspicions are too detailed and involved to go into them in a letter, especially after 10 PM. When we speak, we can discuss them, if I remember everything, but, by then, I should have a photo, and should be able to discuss it from that. If you can call me free before I leave (June 1st), we may be able to have a preliminary discussion on it. Right now, to bed.

Sincerest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

11/30/65

Dear Eric:

Didn't find much in Europe, and wasn't a very successful detective. When you have a chance, give me a call if the phone's still free. I'm still very behind with backlogged mail, and talking is easier.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

P.S. I still have to find something for you for that note. How about a kind? Also, though that one was for a gift, if you have any duplicate notes of anything, but, in strictly UNC, I may be able to use them, either as a cash purchase, or on trade, if we can find anything here that you can use. Also, how about the 3-C N.J.

FORM #105

July 14,1965

# MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. Richard Picker | FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick:

Thank you for your letter of July 9, with respect to pricing the Colonial Currency. I certainly look forward to it being done, promptly, and suggest that you do not wait, under any circumstances.

Even if Whitman is delayed in typesetting, there are lots of other matters which can proceed and they need pricing for that purpose. If the book needs any correction in prices because of the Merkin sale, there probably will be plenty time to do it. This, of course, agrees with what you said. I certainly do not feel that a collection of 200 notes or less from the individual Colonies is going to set any market, unless they are choice selections.

As to sending me some Colonial Paper money in exchange for the uncirculated note I sent you, I am returning the list you sent me as I have all of them. However, if the Rhode Island 30 shillings is in nice condition that might do.

If you have a South Carolina December 23, 1777 as listed on the back sheet, that would be satisfactory in part.

My suggestion is that you send me a fair value equivalent or give me a few to choose from.

The March 10,1769 Pennsylvania could be included.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

5/13/65

Dear Eric:

Nice talking with you the other day. I had a call from Jerry Trains in answer to my letter, and he's sending up both the trials. I should have them in a day or two, so I'd suggest that you give me a call either Monday or Tuesday. That should give me time to form some sort of opinion. I'd appreciate your call because, if you decide that you're interested, of course, I'll pass them, but, if you're not interested, I may be, and I'd like to discuss them with you, before I come to a decision. One other thing. If you can find amongst your duplicates a N.J. note, 3/25/76 3 pounds in UNC, I'd very much appreciate it. A good friend is lacking this piece, has all the other denominations in unc. I would like to present this as a gift, and will either buy it or trade for it, if you have one. Please look. Nothing much else. Do you hear anything from or about George? What ever happened to that project you were working on with him?

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Rick

May 14, 1965

Mr. Richard Picker

Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick:

I enclose herewith uncirculated New Jersey Three Pound note dated March 25, 1776, No. 6017. This is the curious one with the mosquitoes on the back. You can send me something for it in exchange whenever it is convenient.

When you hear from Tralins, I will follow up.

I talk to George, on occasion, but he is quite restricted in his numismatic activity and will not be doing much for a while.

Excuse the brevity of this note.

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

7/18/65

Dear Eric:

Your letter arrived regarding the currency, but, it'll be a few days before I can work on it, since I'm in the midst of moving my office from one room to another, and all of my material is either in the vault or packed in cartons. I was away all week, and though in Washington for a short time, didn't even have a chance to call Ben, though I did see Dr. B. for a while. I'll write you again later in the week, or, perhaps wait until I have an answer from you on this piece, and then give you all the details. But, right now, it's 10:45 PM. and we had unexpected guests since 11:30 AM. They just left. I must get some sleep. I'm convinced that this coin is a phoney, but, under the circumstances that it came to me, I must have a confirming opinion. Please let me have a letter on the fancy stationery, with your opinion and reasons. These die breaks are a dead give away and, if genuine, I guess you'd have to say that it's the latest die state of the coin, but, in an early die state, since it has breaks that don't exist on the latest states, but, is lacking some that do exist on earlier states. In other words, it's getting pretty late. Please let me have this back at your earliest convenience, with an impressive report. What are your vacation plans? Will you be in Houston? Was the English info of any help? Call me when you can.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely

July 22, 1965

Mr. Richard Picker
P. O. Box 123
Albertson, Long Island, New York 11507

Dear Dick:

You have submitted to me a Fugio Dollar Variety 1 (1) C which weighs 277 grains and has a specific gravity of 7.5.

It has a very weak appearance and shows no wear, indicating it is a casting.

It has a plain edge and all genuine specimens have a floral edge. Therefore, the plain edge is indicative of a casting.

The NE in CONTINENTAL has a connection which is the result of a casting defect.

There is a lump opposite the second S in CONGRESS which is a casting defect.

There is a lump opposite the Virginia link which is a casting defect.

The foregoing indications prove the coin is a casting without the necessity of going intothe question of the specific gravity, the nature of the obverse crack, the improper color of the metal, or a nondestructive X-ray analysis of the metal.

Many of these casts are rather old, some having appeared almost one hundred years ago. All genuine coins were struck.

The coin is returned herewith and it is always interesting to have the opportunity to examine questionable pieces.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P.NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

Form #105

July 23, 1965

# MEMORANDUM

To Mr. Richard Picker | From Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick:

Thank you for the address in England which conforms to my previous data.

I have not decided how I will use the Paris contact but will decide on that at a later date.

I do not plan to go to Houston.

If you do not receive some of the pages and pricing from Ben Douglas, I suggest you needle him, as I would, very much, like to have them back in two or three weeks.

They just found the loot of a coin burglary here in St.Louis and five different people have already found the culls of their burglary. The good stuff was all gone. Nothing of mine was included. The burglar left the coins at the house of a boyhood friend of his and the friend, apparently, is innocent. The burglar, naturally, escaped.

Hope that the moving of your office does not indicate you are throwing your wife out of the main bedroom.

I'll call you one of these moments.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

FORM #105

July 28,1965

# MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. Richard Picker

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick:

Do you plan to go to the Blue Ridge Show August 5-8? If you do, you can bid for me if there is anything in Oscar's material that I would like to bid on. I haven't seen a catalog and have written for one.

I certainly believe that the prices will be helpful to you and Ben.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

Put in Howard Spain file.

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

[illegible]

Dear Erik:

In cleaning out my files, I was across this from 1959, and thought that it might have some interest for you. If so, fine, if not, toss it in the basket. Am anxious to know if your sleuthing has produced any results. Did you receive the Stiver from [illegible]?

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

P.S. [illegible] you gave a lecture on the game to a Mr. [illegible].

also any proof notes on va.

I have a couple of proof notes that F.C.C. Boyd, E. P. Newman & Harry Freeman, call unique, unheard of, unfathomed, and they have never seen any like them. Naturally everyone wants them, but I'm not anxious to dispose of same - Never if someone comes up with a $500.00 1861-62 Virginia Treasury note I might consider a trade. I know of one, and there are others I am sure — Maybe you can find me one —

Best regards

Howard E. Spain

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

8/20/65

Dear Eric:

Have been patiently awaiting results of your study of the two pieces, the [illegible] stives, and the Crosby 15. I leave on Monday, the 23rd for Houston. If you don't plan to be there, please drop me a line there (Shamrock Hilton Hotel) and let me know your findings. We return on the 25th. Did you do anything on the English ads? What else is new??

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

P.S. How did you make out with the Schilke material??

RICHARD PICKER, Inc.
COINS
P. O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 8/31/65 Nº 5869

Eric Newman

~~APPROVAL~~ Study

| | ITEM | INVENTORY NUMBER | PRICE | | | |
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| | N. Y. 1737 £5 # 6245 | | | | | |
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RICHARD PICKER, Inc.
COINS
P. O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 9/1/65 Nº 5872

Erik Nunn

~~APPROVAL~~ Stuart

| | ITEM | INVENTORY NUMBER | PRICE | | | |
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| | N.Y. 4/2/59 J5 | | | | | |
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MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

[illegible]/14/[illegible]

Dear Eric:

Was just looking thru Dick Becker's FINANCIAL HISTORY OF COLONIAL NEW HAMPSHIRE, and though he doesn't mention coins, on page 13, he mentions that the issue of 1/[illegible]/7[illegible] was signed by [illegible] Smith and [illegible] Moulton. Then, on page 15 he reprints a copy of a photostat, which is evidently a bill for the expenses involved in the printing of the bills of 1775, which is signed by Meshech Weare and Josiah Moulton. Could this be Moulton, and, could it be possible that WM might stand for Weare and Moulton? Could more be found out about these people? It might be a load. By the way, did Cuhn ever send you the stiver?

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

[signature]

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

9/23/65

Dear Eric:

Got a letter from ATS, letting me know that you were out of town, and that you'd got to my accumulation of mail as soon as was possible after your return. Well, here's another one. I'm sure that you remember the Surface Washington piece that I sent you some time ago, the Roman Head with Sasonek's name instead of the date under the bust. At that time, I didn't own it. Shortly before George got sick, I showed him the picture that you lost, of it. He said that he just had to have it. This was at some convention in Ohio. I called the owner, and his price was $4,000. When I told this to George, he said that he would take it, with my commission of 10% added. Knowing that he didn't have that kind of money to spend, I asked him how he'd be able to pay for it. His answer was that this piece was so important that he would 'call dad' and that it would be OK. Upon my return from the convention, I called the dealer, bought the piece, and shipped it to George. I hope that this wasn't the cause of it, but, shortly thereafter he got sick. While he was sick, I called Mel every so often, to check on his condition as a personal matter, and one time he mentioned this piece, or else I may have asked him about it, I just don't recall at the moment. In any event it was subsequently returned to me. Mel mentioned that they might still be in-

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763



terested in it, but, at the time, while George was still sick, would not give it any thought. I've kept it aside for them all this time, and now that George is better, I felt that I might hear something on it. I've spoken to Mel only, and have been hesitant to call George, because I felt that the conversation might lead to coins, and I was told that this would not be good for him. However, I've written George two personal letters, saying nothing about coins, but have received no reply. The last time I spoke to Mel, about a week or so ago, he told me that they were considering selling the Washingtonia. Of course I told him that I'd be interested, and he told me that I'd be considered if such a decision was made. I doubt that this information is public knowledge, since I haven't heard any rumors about it, and I'd appreciate your confidence here. In view of this, I feel that they are no longer interested in the piece, and do not feel any obligation to hold it for them any longer. So, in view of all this, I plan to offer it. Please let me know if you might be interested in it or not, and, if you are, what you feel you might want to offer in trade for it. Of course, I'm not stubborn, I'll still take the $4,000, in case, if you insist. Meanwhile, if I get their Washington collection, you'll have first choice. Within the last few days, I've [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. Haven't [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], but hope to get a lot of work done on them over the week-end. Yes, what's new with you???????

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

[illegible]

October 4, 1965

Mr. Richard Picker

Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick,

It was fun talking to you, as always.

You will recall I sent you an uncirculated £3 New Jersey note. I am returning a Pennsylvania 2 shilling which you offered to me and would appreciate it if you would let me have the 1737 New York piece in exchange. I think you did well enough on the Colonial paper money deal so that this might be possible. As you know, its condition is only fair. Most of this series seem to have higher numbers than the amount actually issued but this may be due to replacements, from time to time, or else numbering which did not begin from the beginning.

I am also returning the 1759 New York £5 which you sent me. The last signature is that of John Morin Scott, which you could not read because his middle name was more prominent than anything else.

I would appreciate it if you will give your opinion of the value of those Colonial notes signed by a Declaration of Independence signer. I will gladly include this as a footnote under the pricing of each issue where such a signer occurs. I think your suggestion is a very good one.

The sheet of Rhode Island 1786 notes which you acquired is one with which I am familiar. Thank you for calling it to my attention.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

October 4, 1965

Mr. Richard Picker

Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick,

I shudder to tell you that, in my opinion, I have logic which shows the Stiver to be an artificial coin. The three N's are backwards and on the study of the coin I note that the lettering was punchedinto the die. A punch would have N's made normally and, therefore, the mistake of the backward N is deliberate and is a copy of the mistake made on Massachusetts coinage. In Massachusetts coinage punches for the letters were not used. I suspect that Brother Betts was the perpetrator.

Naturally, there are all kinds of other inconsistencies, such as Dutch lions on a New England piece.

Please think over my logic and see whether you are inclined to agree.

Sincerely,

E N/atb

Form #105

October 11, 1965

# MEMORANDUM

To Mr. Richard Picker | From Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick:

I'll be sending you a print of the Stiver and I have almost come to a definite conclusion. Taxay agrees with me.

I am sending you a list of the signers of the Declaration who signed Continental Bills and you can arrange a pricing footnote for each one.

I am returning the New York 1737 note and will await something in exchange for the New Jersey £3 note which I sent you.

As to your pricing work, I purposely do not wish to inject myself into the thinking. I really appreciate the work which you and Ben have done and will finally check it over before I enter it into the final script to see that you don't price anything that is unknown or too rare to talk about.

I know how much work has gone into your pricing and you can begin to guess how much work has gone into my working out the historical detail as to every issue. I never dreamed how inaccurate all of the prior work on the subject really was. Maybe they will say the same thing about my work.

The only thing that occurred to me is that I could consider trading my Maris 3-C for the Washington Roman Head pattern. I've gotten so deep in research that I really can't work up any lather for acquisition, just to hide a coin in the vault. The burglars, fences, and crooked coin dealers have just made collecting a menace rather than a pleasure.

Kindest regards,

EPN/ath

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

# RICHARD PICKER, Inc.

COINS

P. O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON

NEW YORK 11507

MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 10/15/65 № 5897

Eric Newman
Edison Bros Stores Inc
400 Wash Ave
St. Louis 2, Mo

APPROVAL

| ITEM | INVENTORY NUMBER | PRICE |
|---|---|---|
| (1792) Wash. B.19 Die Trial | for possible Trade | |

Returned
11/15/66

RICHARD PICKER, Inc.
COINS
P. O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 10/25/65 Nº 5995

Eric Newman

APPROVAL

| ITEM | INVENTORY NUMBER | PRICE |
|---|---|---|
| Va 15d | Howard E Spann | for trade |
| Va 2½S | | |
| Va 10 Dol | | |

October 29, 1965

Mr. Richard Picker

Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick:

I was glad that you saw Spain, again, and if he has 2500 different Virginia pieces it certainly is amazing. I probably do not have more than 600.

He is offering me three items for two items I have and he originally thought there is always a price on everything. He learned that I don't think that way.

In order to be a nice guy and satisfy him, partially, I will let him have my $100 Virginia State note on thick paper for one of the blank center trial pieces. I can hardly remember when I parted with a piece from my regular collection except to the burglars who did not offer me any exchange.

We are dealing with unique items and I am perfectly aware how sincere Howard Spain is because no one would be that persistent unless they were sincere.

One of the reasons I am making the foregoing suggestion is because you have been so cooperative in helping me so maybe he was right to use you as the in-between man. I am enclosing an extra copy of this letter if you want to forward it to him.

Collectors are funny characters. When I look in the mirror I get even more convinced.

Cordially,

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

11/1/65

Dear Erik:

Thanks for the letters, copies, etc. I've sent the extra copy of the Spain letter to Jim, and we'll see what he has to say. However, I'm of the impression that the TV is much more important to him. But, this is just a guess. I'll let you know as soon as I hear from him. I've enjoyed your visit in my vicinity, and will have more of it, I'm convinced after Saturday. Meanwhile, there are the usual kinds of things that go on. I'm sure you know of them, and I'm sure you know how to cope with them. In any case, I'm sure we'll be able to work out the problems, and I'm looking forward to seeing you in Washington next week, and to the experience of working with you. Yes, as it usually has been with Jerry, and most like earlier of the last decade, I asked Lester to let me know if he receives any mail bids on Tuesday. I leave here Saturday, about 2:30 PM, and will come into the Roosevelt for the week-end. If you want, you can call me Saturday PM, and I can let you know how things stand at that time. As for the Dixon matter, you're perfectly right, of course, I still think that we will be able to work out a mutually satisfactory arrangement before you get that in the book. The differences that you mention do exist, but there are more similarities than differences. Isn't it possible that when studying your copy a few months since, and in a small space, that it didn't stay somewhere from your normal signature?!!

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

[illegible]

[illegible]

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
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AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

[illegible]

Dear Eric:

Just received a letter from [illegible]. He's real [illegible] for your [illegible] and [illegible]. He also feels that it would be a shame to break up the pair of [illegible]. He's willing to [illegible] to entice you. So can you [illegible] of the [illegible] type, [illegible] as your [illegible], and is you willing to part with that, along with the [illegible] that you already have, for the two that he wants. Frankly, I don't know the values involved in these items, but it seems to me that this [illegible] worthwhile in order to make the trade more advantageous for you. So give this new proposal some thought and let me know the answer.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

11/1/[illegible]

Dear Peter:

Guess where the taste of life spent time. Take cover in an office being an in Connecticut giving Thursday afternoon. Don't talk about over your [illegible]

But I feel want to use book for [illegible] as you'll get 5%.
[illegible] 5%. 5%.

Just I get college to send sort of cover [illegible] send you a group to go over for improvements.

Sincerely yours,

Sincerely,

Dick

November 9, 1965

Mr. Richard Picker
P. O. Box 123
Albertson, New York 11507

Dear Dick:

Thank you very much for bidding on my behalf, and I see that I was the one who pushed the book bid up in each case. Please let me know if you want me to send Howard Spain's items directly back to him or if you want them sent to you so that you can return them. I have no interest in his revised proposition.

Is it possible to obtain from Lester the amount which was bid for the items in the sale? Did you make a memo of them from which you could make a copy for me?

I am hopeful that now Ben will be able to complete the rest of the pricing because there are still a couple of states open. I leave for Chicago tonight to play teacher at Roosevelt University. I have already been told that no one can listen for two hours and that the program should be cut to a little over an hour. If this is the way education is conducted today, I believe they ought to redesign the seats of the chairs or redesign the attitudes of those who want to learn.

Very shortly I am going to receive from a collector a colonial paper money collection which he wishes to sell, and I will submit it to either you or Ben or both. What thoughts have you on that matter?

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/cal

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

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MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

12/9/[illegible]

Dear Eric:

Thanks for the letter. My bottom is better, and I'm back at work, but, I wasn't able to do any work for about 10 days. During that time, I had the coins and all info pertinent to the Bennington recovery sitting here, awaiting reconstruction of the entire collection and an evaluation for their insurance. I finished that and sent off report to the Zoo, and, since then, I've been trying to catch up on the mail that's accumulated, as well as taking care of the current mail. After all, we've got to eat too. I've been working almost every evening since I got started again. This weekend is shot, as I have the annual N.Y. club ladies night dinner tomorrow, and theater tickets at 2PM, and a visit from my nephew who'll have Sunday off from Kings Point Maritime Academy. He called me about this last week, and I told him that it would still have to wait a while. I wanted to get down to the GCNA show for a day, but, decided to stay here and work x instead. I ought to be able to get to it by the middle or end of next week. It'll be done as soon as possible. Meanwhile, have a Happy Chanukah.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Richard

MEMO FROM

# Richard Picker

P.O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON
NEW YORK 11507
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

[illegible]

Dear Eric:

[illegible] pleased to know that [illegible] only [illegible] of the [illegible] paper [illegible] to send this print to you. It appears that this is an earlier state of the obverse. Note that the letters [illegible] thinner, the lower serif of the 1st 'T' is lacking, as is the right part of the lower serif of the 2nd 'T'. The heads of the inner and outer circle as well as those of the rosette appear smaller, and those are raised lines in the upper field and under the top part of the tree. The 'T' is especially thin, as is the 'M', and the letter is further from both the inner and outer circle. There are other minor differences, which I'm sure you'll find when you compare it to another coin. Unfortunately, I do not have one in stock at the moment, and had to work with the [illegible] and [illegible] plates. I guess we'll have to call this [illegible] minus [illegible]. I'm anxious for your opinion. Meanwhile, the work on the paper is really started. It was begun yesterday afternoon, and I even got some evening work in, and most of today. I've finished [illegible] far, and [illegible] well into the far. If I can finish that today, I'll get these two into the mail to Ben tomorrow AM.

Kindest regards, and best wishes for a very happy holiday season,

Sincerely,

[illegible]

[illegible]

Dear [illegible]:

Please excuse this paper, but, since this is probably going to be a long letter, I'm using some [illegible]. First, on the [illegible], I got the [illegible] off to [illegible], along with a little something [illegible]. [illegible] it [illegible]. I'll appreciate your comments on all of [illegible]. I'd also like to [illegible] what you think about the idea of [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible]. If this comes [illegible], we might try to [illegible] Breen [illegible], who may be able to come up [illegible]. If this [illegible], he should [illegible] have a copy [illegible]. This will give us all some time to go over it, and possibly come up with suggestions that might be better than ~~after~~ [illegible] after the book is published. Still on the [illegible] field, I've [illegible] about a [illegible] who [illegible] counterfeit [illegible] for [illegible]. That's [illegible] to me, [illegible]* [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] I'd [illegible] to look [illegible] at the [illegible] of the [illegible] that you sent. [illegible] this & [illegible] in the art of making [illegible] to be able to make ~~like~~ them. [illegible] of the similarity of those two letters (the only ones that are reversed), I see no [illegible] at this point to indicate that the letters were punched rather than cut. Perhaps this is enough, but, though I may agree with you, someone must take the other side if we're going to give an answer that will hold water, [illegible] that they were made with punches. Your contention is that the [illegible]'s were reversed deliberately. I'd say that if they were punches, the work is so crude, that whoever made them could just as well have made the [illegible]'s reversed because he just didn't have enough skill to make good punches. If they were from a professional set of punches, the other letters would have been better formed. I go along with the punching theory because of the similarity of the two reversed letters. But in order to confirm that position, what other evidence did you find that would indicate punching rather than cutting? Then you mention 'Brother Betts'. Did he cut or punch? I was under the impression that he cut. Is this wrong? You also mentioned [illegible] (1 or 2 [illegible] coin) is coin [illegible] legitimacy, [illegible] Without documentation, future generations might feel that this was an unauthorized piece because it pictured a [illegible] on a U.S. coin. What other evidence do you have? Or, what other theories? Or what???

If the photo of the Pine Tree [illegible] that I sent previously puzzled you, [illegible], and if you agreed that it was just an earlier state of [illegible] which I believe, then please tell me what you make of this! I've examined the coin, and have it here. If you don't believe what you see, and would like to examine it yourself, I'm sure that I can borrow it for this purpose. (IT'S BEING RETURNED TO THE OWNER TOMORROW)

* MAYBE HE'S SOMEONE ON THE 'BOOB TUBE'

I'm enclosing a close up of the 1st one I sent. This has the source 'G'. [illegible] is a shell [illegible] of the new one with the round 'G'. This 2nd one seems to be a re-cutting of the first, being most evident in the last 'T' of [illegible]. But, there are other indications, as in the size of the [illegible], etc. However, in the final stages of the die, where the 'H' is about smaller (Nos 37), the 'G' is still narrow!!! Is it the final cutting? If not, how did the 'H' get back to normal size? Is the round 'G' the earlier state? If so, how does the [illegible] between 'G' [illegible]? I'm convinced that both coins are [illegible], and, as I said previously, can come then both available for your examination if you find it necessary. Meanwhile, I'm anxiously awaiting an explanation.

Also enclosed is a photo of a nice Higley. This piece belongs to a collector. I'd like to try to find a collector in it. It seems to [illegible] to make one. A good copy of my books are a out being reprinted. I may still find it in some [illegible] that I have here, but, I only [illegible] the [illegible] today, and haven't had a chance to look. However, the [illegible] that he's tried a good copy of the Chapman Catalogue without success. Could this have been Yale Property at one time? Or, Mass. Hist. Soc.? I don't have any records on these.

I just went thru my files to see what else I can do, in order to fill up this expensive paper, and see that you mentioned your Immune Columbia photos. I have them, along with your notes as well, but, they are still packed. [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] notes [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. [illegible], I'd like to see you do a definitive article on these pieces. Such an article might make a good subject for the next ANA Forum.?.?.

Hey, it's 10:30PM already. I'm probably missing some good shows on TV. Anyway, I've about run out. I've made a copy of this letter, just in the event that you want to call and discuss any part of it, I'll have it handy. Hope that you're enjoying a very happy holiday season.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick